



Solano County District Attorney

Bureau of Forensic Services

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE BULLETIN

URINE AS A SAMPLE FOR TOXICOLOGY ANALYSIS

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INTRODUCTION

Blood is the preferred biological specimen for determining possible impairment. However, if there is a significant time period between the incident and the sample collection, a urine sample may be a better choice. Urine may also be appropriate for analysis of drugs that are not typically present in sufficient concentration in blood for analysis. However, drug levels in urine are not directly correlated to the levels in the bloodstream at the time of collection. Identification of a drug in urine indicates a history of use and is not conclusively indicative of impairment due to long elimination times. In some cases, submissions of both a blood and a urine sample may be appropriate. Urine toxicology results will be reported qualitatively, not quantitatively. As with the handling of all biological specimens, certain precautions must be taken. Urine sample collection kits are provided by the laboratory.

SAMPLING, COLLECTING, PRESERVING, AND MARKING

The following summarizes the important considerations in the collection and preservation of urine samples for toxicology analysis:

1. Urine sample may be collected directly into the container (cup) provided by the laboratory or into another container and transferred.
2. Circle "SAMPLE" as type of specimen on the sample envelope. A separate "void" sample is not required for toxicology testing if alcohol testing will not be performed. If alcohol testing will be requested refer to the Physical Evidence Bulletin for **Urine as a Sample for Alcohol Determination** for specific instructions for void samples.
3. All fields on the label provided must be filled out and placed on the container. It is important to carefully note the date and time on sample label and sample envelope.
4. The recommended minimum quantity of urine sample required to perform toxicology analysis and still provide sufficient quantity for referee analysis by the defendant is 10 cc or 10 mL. If the recommended minimum is not reached, a small amount of urine collected may be sufficient for toxicology analysis and should be forwarded to the laboratory.
5. A member of the police agency, preferably the arresting officer, should supervise the collection of the sample so there will be no question as to the source or whether sample may have been adulterated. An example of adulteration might be tap water being placed in the container.

PACKAGING

Solano County
Office of the District Attorney
Bureau of Forensics

Laboratory Barcode
Only

URINE SAMPLE FOR ALCOHOL/DRUG ANALYSIS

Type of Drug Suspected (Check box and, if known, indicate):
 Stimulants (Cocaine/Methamphetamine)
 Opiates (Heroin/Codeine/Morphine)
 Depressants (Benzodiazepines/Barbiturates)
 Cannabinoids (Marijuana)
 Others (Please list):

Subject's Name (Last, First, M) _____ Driver's License _____ Date of Birth _____

Agency _____ Agency Case No. _____ Offense(s) _____

Investigating Officer (Print) _____ Badge No. _____ Offense Date _____

VOID SAMPLE

Circle Type of Specimen Submitted _____ Time of Void _____ Time of Sample _____

Witnessing Officer/Person _____ Date/Time _____

CHAIN OF POSSESSION: Rev 05/09/12

Received From	Receive By	Date

FOR LABORATORY USE ONLY:
 Sealed Unsealed Other: _____ #Vials _____

Envelope Front

Envelope Back

SUBJECT'S NAME _____
 INITIALS OF PERSON DRAWING OF BLOOD/OR WITNESS TO URINE _____
 DATE _____ TIME _____
 WITNESSING OFFICER _____

Specimen Label

PLACE EVIDENCE SEAL HERE

Arresting Officer should seal with tape provided in kit and initial/date across the seal

INSTRUCTIONS TO INDIVIDUALS COLLECTING URINE SAMPLES FOR ALCOHOL/DRUG ANALYSIS

- Submitting officer must witness the consent of the subject to provide a urine sample and supervise the collection thereof. The collection should be handled in such a manner as to ensure the source of the urine and to prevent the substitution of tap water for the sample.
- FOR ALCOHOL ANALYSIS** - Have subject void bladder. Wait at least 20 minutes and then have the subject provide a minimum of 10cc of urine in the enclosed specimen cup recording collection time of sample on front of this envelope.
FOR DRUG ANALYSIS - Collect in the enclosed container a minimum of 10cc of urine from the subject recording collection time of sample on front of this envelope.
- Secure cap on specimen cup tightly!
- Label the urine sample bottle with the label provided giving:
 - Full name of Subject
 - Date, time and initials of person collecting sample
- The submitting officer should initial the seal on the urine sample.
- The information on this envelope is to be completed by the submitting officer.
- The urine sample is to be placed in this envelope and sealed.
- Transport or arrange to transport the envelope to the Forensic Laboratory (Monday through Friday 8 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

- Clean and dry specimen containers with tight fitting screw caps have been provided by the laboratory for collecting urine samples. A dry preservative has been added to the vials. The preservative is 750 mg of sodium fluoride in a three (3) ounce container.
- Sample bottles shall be secured tightly, labeled and sealed in a urine envelope.

ANALYSIS

Samples will be screened for common drugs of abuse. Positive screening tests will be followed by confirmation analysis. Confirmation analysis will also be performed for the presence of requested drugs that are not commonly screened for. Absent a request for a specific analyte of interest, negative screening results will not be forwarded for confirmation analysis.

Analysis of urine samples for the presence of drugs in a driving related case Envelope Back performed on cases if the alcohol concentration is 0.08% (w/v) or greater.

RE-EXAMINATION

The laboratory does not routinely examine materials that have been previously examined by another laboratory. Re-examination requests must be made in writing by the submitting agency with an endorsement by the prosecuting attorney having jurisdiction in the case.

EVIDENCE DISPOSITION

Urine samples submitted for analysis will be retained by the laboratory for one year at which time it will be returned to the submitting agency.

The laboratory will not be responsible for destruction of evidence.

For further information on collection of blood for forensic alcohol analysis contact the laboratory directly.

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